



DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Douglas M. Duncan
County Executive

Alisoun K. Moore
Chief Information Officer

PUBLIC NOTICE

Proposed Cable Franchise Between Montgomery County and Verizon Maryland, Inc.

Pursuant to Chapter 8A-9 of the Montgomery County Code, the following is provided as a summary of the terms of the proposed cable franchise agreement between Montgomery County and the Participating Municipalities, and Verizon Maryland, Inc. The proposed agreement provides cable subscribers in the County a competitive alternative for cable television service. It will also provide additional benefits in the form of funding and facilities for public, educational and governmental (PEG) use. The key franchise terms include:

1. 15 year term;
2. a Fiber to the Premise Network capable of providing voice, video and broadband access services;
3. customer service standards addressing telephone and service responsiveness, billing, installation, and notice to subscribers;
4. payment to the County of a franchise fee of 5% of gross revenues;
5. 11 channels set aside for PEG use, with 2 additional channels reserved for future use, and 13 more channels available if the initial capacity set aside for PEG use is subdivided or compressed in a digital format;
6. payment to the County of an additional 3% of gross revenues, to be used by the County and the participating municipalities to support PEG access and the Institutional Network;
7. free cable drops and service to up to 100 County buildings and \$200,000 payments in each of the first 5 years of the franchise, in lieu of the company's obligation to add additional cable drops and service during the term of the franchise;
8. system technical standards and testing requirements; and
9. performance guarantees.

Information regarding the application and proposed franchise is available for review in the Department of Technology Services, Cable Office, 100 Maryland Avenue, Suite 250, Rockville or on the Internet at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cable.

For questions regarding the matter, contact Jane E. Lawton, County Cable Communications Administrator, at 240-777-3724 or email at jane.lawton@montgomerycountymd.gov